

Idgah



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MAPLE KIDS

Eid, the festival of happiness, delicious sweets, new clothes, and worship, had finally arrived after thirty days of fasting. Everyone went to the village fair after the prayers at the Idgah. On this happy occasion, Ameena was sad as she looked at her five-year-old grandson, Hamid who had lost his parents a year ago.



For Hamid, his old grandmother was his universe. Ameena had been able to save only eight rupees for the preparations of Eid. She wanted to make porridge but milk would cost two rupees and she was yet to buy sugar and vermicelli. She was lost in thoughts when suddenly Hamid jumped into her lap and hugged her.



Ameena embraced him lovingly; she gave him three rupees and sent him to the Idgah. After prayers, Hamid and his friends hugged each other and then went to buy clay toys and sweets. His friends bought different toys and sweets. The children teased Hamid as they ate the sweets, but Hamid remained calm and did not spend his money.



As they walked through the fair, Hamid saw tongs at the ironsmith's shop. He remembered that his grandmother often burnt her hands while making chapattis for him.



“How much for the tongs?” he asked. “Six rupees.” Hamid was heartbroken. “Five rupees is the final price,” the shopkeeper said. Hamid could take it or leave the shop!

Mustering some courage, Hamid asked, “Will you give it to me for three rupees?” Surprisingly, the shopkeeper agreed.



His friends made fun of him, but Hamid's happiness knew no bounds. He performed some tricks with the tongs and entertained his friends.

Soon after, the boys shared their sweets with Hamid!



Hamid ran towards Ameena and climbed into her lap. Ameena kissed him lovingly. She was surprised when he

showed her the tongs.

“I bought them for three rupees, Granny,” he said. “Couldn’t you find anything else, child?” she asked him. “Your hands get burnt while making chapattis, Granny, so I bought them for you!” Hamid said.



Ameena’s eyes became misty. Tears rolled down her cheeks as she prayed for Hamid.

